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University of Montana

NEWS RELEASE

Office of News and Publications
Missoula, MT 59812
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March 1, 1991

KUFM/KGPR TO AIR PENTAGON PAPERS DOCUDRAMA, MEDIA SYMPOSIUM ON WAR COVERAGE

MISSOULA --

KUFM/KGPR, broadcasting from The University of Montana, will air an all-star docudrama, "Top Secret: The Battle for the Pentagon Papers," and a media symposium, "The Press Goes to War: Vietnam and the Persian Gulf," from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 10.

The play, performed by the LA Classic Theatre Works Co., is directed by Tom Moore and features actors Stacy Keach, Ed Asner, Marsha Mason and James Whitmore.

"Top Secret" focuses on The Washington Post's role in publishing the Pentagon papers -- which detailed the history of the United States' involvement with Vietnam -- and the following court battle that led to a landmark Supreme Court victory for the press.

The play is based on interviews with the participants and on trial transcripts, including some previously undisclosed portions of the proceedings released under the Freedom of Information Act.

"The Press Goes to War," moderated by Oakland Tribune Publisher and Editor Robert Maynard, includes Washington Post Editor Ben Bradlee and Los Angeles Times national writer Robert Scheer. George Wilson, the Post's Pentagon reporter at the time the papers were leaked to the press, also participates. Wilson played a major role in the Post's court case.

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